

mindset that grew this small town into a considerable per capita national asset; the same soul that said our best days are yet ahead; this town, with its share of Bluestone, is seeing more and more blue skies each day. And the word has spread. From Hatfield and McCoy Trail riders, from national and international Boy Scouts of America and their families, to even our neighbors here in the Virginias, Bramwell has become a distinctive, desirable destination in and of its own right. Of that we are most proud.

I take great pride myself in playing a role in bringing the federal resources to bear so that the Bramwell story can be told and retold 1,025 years from now. From Coal Heritage funding to supporting funding for VISTA to help staff the new Farmer's Market, Bramwell is one heck of a good, sound federal investment. And, boy, that's a story we can share with the world.

It's a story that exceeds the fame and infamy of the fabled fortunes of coal barons. It's a tale with far broader implications than a slice of living history romanticized for a few days of entertainment. It is nothing short of a life's lesson, of a people not giving up nor giving in. And it is proof positive of the productivity that comes from a close knit group of people who work together for the common good.

Mr. Speaker, the work and achievements this town's citizens have forged constitute nothing short of a model for the country.

I hope my colleagues will take note of this national investment and take time to visit soon. They may feel completely free to share this treasure of a town with their constituents. Bramwell welcomes all.

To all my good friends in Bramwell, I wish you a very Happy Birthday and Godspeed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 587, due to a previously scheduled, important event in my district with my constituents that could not be rescheduled, I was not present for this vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING RYAN A. MCCOY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan A. McCoy. Ryan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ryan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Ryan

has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan A. McCoy for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, on November 18th, I was attending a funeral and missed rollcall No. 589, on H.R. 272. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,192,878,839,268.39. We've added \$6,566,001,790,355.31 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN CELEBRATION OF LOTTIE ALBERT'S 98TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to wish my dear friend Lottie Albert a very happy 98th birthday. Lottie was born on December 25, 1915 to Eva and Louis Wernick in New York, New York. In 1936, she married Sol Albert and shared 55 wonderful years of marriage with him. They had two daughters, Harriet and Doreen. Now, Lottie is a grandmother of Eric, Glenn, and Lowell, as well as a great-grandmother of Kyle, Samantha, Heather, and Seth.

Lottie has been a resident of Broward County for 40 years and lived in the City of Sunrise for the past 12 years. She is an amazing individual who has selflessly dedicated herself to helping so many throughout South Florida, and for that I am truly grateful.

Her work with the Ann Storck Children's Center, The Elderly Interest Fund's MEDIVAN Program, and the Alzheimer's Family Center was honored on March 25, 2012 with her induction into the Broward County Women's Hall of Fame. Additionally, in 1988, she was inducted into the Area Agency on Aging's Dr. Nan S. Hutchison Broward Senior Hall of Fame. Furthermore, in 2005 Broward County named November 12th as "Lottie Albert Appreciation Day."

Mr. Speaker, Lottie exemplifies the ideals of civic engagement. Her compassion and tire-

less devotion to her community are a shining example for us all. She has been a wonderful friend to me for so many years, and it is my distinct honor to wish her a happy birthday.

HONORING ARGO MARKETING GROUP ON BEING AWARDED THE 2013 INC. HIRE POWER AWARD FOR JOB CREATION

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Argo Marketing Group as it celebrates being awarded the 2013 Inc. Hire Power Award as the number one job creator in Lewiston, Maine.

Argo Marketing Group was founded in 2003 by Jason Levesque, a veteran of the United States Army. It provides quality third-party customer service to its clients' customers around the world. In the past 10 years, the firm has grown from being the brainchild of one determined individual to a fast-growing industry pioneer with three Maine offices.

This year, Argo Marketing Group has invested \$2.4 million in turning a dilapidated building in Lewiston's downtown into a 25,000 square foot headquarters with space for 250 jobs. With the addition of the new Lewiston facility, Argo Marketing Group expects to have a total of 350 call center seats and 500 employees. For these efforts, the firm placed first on the 2013 Inc. Hire Power list of job creators in Lewiston.

Throughout the Group's rapid expansion, it has remained devoted to community service. It has lent its support to groups including the Lewiston Public Theater, Sand Castle preschool, and Maine's National Guard and Reserve Family Readiness Program. Founded by a veteran, the firm is committed to giving back to Maine service members by offering hiring bonuses to military veterans, active members and veterans of the Maine National Guard and Reserve, and their spouses.

Argo Marketing Group is truly a testament to the creative and dynamic spirit of Maine. As a job-builder and community member, its efforts help make Maine a great place to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating Argo Marketing Group on being awarded the 2013 Inc. Hire Power Award for their outstanding job creation in the city of Lewiston, Maine.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize the first Douglas Youth Leadership Development Forum that will be held this week in Southern Arizona.

The theme of this forum is "Speaking Truth to Power" and it is being held in conjunction with national, state and local observations of Rural Health Day.